

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 616

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. James Lee Smith of Cookeville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. James Lee Smith; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Smith was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on April 14, 1936, Dr. Smith was the son of Howard and Tena Taubert Smith; he was a 1953 graduate of Central High School and received his pre-dentistry education at Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Smith was a graduate of the University of Tennessee School of Dentistry in Memphis and placed first in his class seven quarters out of twelve, excelling in Crown and Bridge; during this time, he was inducted as a member into the Richard Doggett Dean and Marguerite Taylor Dean Honorary Odontological Society and the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Society; and

WHEREAS, he honorably served this country as a member of the United States Army during the Cuban Missile Crisis and Vietnam War era; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith received intensive post-graduate training in oral surgery at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., and enrolled in post-graduate courses in restorative dentistry at Letterman General Hospital and the University of California, San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, a full-time dentist in Cookeville for more than sixty years, Dr. James Smith had served as an active member of the Fourth District Dental Society since 1959; he also served on the Tennessee Board of Dentistry, the Cookeville Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees, and the Upper Cumberland Children's Services Agency Board; and

WHEREAS, he was an active member of his community, serving as a charter member of the Cookeville Jaycees, a thirty-nine-year board member of local banks, and a member of the Upper Cumberland Foundation Board of Nashville State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Smith was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of sixty-one years, Margaret Witt Smith; he was the treasured grandfather of Amanda (Wade) Adkins, Jared (Sarah Beth) Smith, and William Smith and the beloved great-grandfather of Hudson Adkins; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, Dr. Smith was preceded in death by his two sons, James Michael "Mike" Smith and Christopher Lee "Chris" Smith, and his brother, Dr. Curt Smith, and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Smith leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. James Lee Smith, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Smith.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.